

Tom He: Jesus Presents Himself as Sacrificial to God's Plan John 18:1-13 - For years I played team sports. I played on a lot of good teams but if I had to pick a favorite I would have to say my high school team from my junior year was the one I loved the most. We had a new coach that year who had to take a group of talented individuals and made them into a team. In that year he taught us the importance of sacrifice. Placing our selves on the line for others. These life lessons pale in comparison to the example of sacrifice we find in the garden of Gethsemane one fateful night 1000's of years ago. Where the all powerful son of God willingly and sacrificially submitted himself to the plan for the redemption of man laid out by God from the foundation of the world.

I. Jesus is Sacrificial in His Direction - Chs 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 yield the final moment of upper room intimacy with his disciples. It was now time to set in motion the remaining scenes of His redeeming work.

A. The Crushing Weight of Sin - vs 1 says that he went forth over the brook Cedron. Cedron was a small stream flowing out of Jerusalem. Although usually dry the word brook suggests flowing waters. Cedron was also used by Temple workers to carry away blood and animal waste from sacrifices. The water would have been blood red from the paschal sacrifice reminding Christ of the agonies that lie ahead. But it was here in the garden that we find the crushing weight of sin.

Gethsemane means olive press. A place where the olives were crushed in order to extract the precious oil. Here the agonies of the coming hours were expressed with strong cries to the father until his sweat ^{drop of blood} became as great.

B. The Crucifying Work of ^{the} Saviour Although we do not find the garden prayer in John, we know from parallel accounts in Mat, Mark, & Luke that Jesus' focus of prayer was upon something called the cup. John mentions it as well in vs 11. What was the cup which the father set before Him. It was the crucifying work for the sin of all mankind that lay ahead. It was the unmix'd wrath of God poured out upon his obedient son on the behalf of sinful man. It was the gruesome slaughter of the Lamb of God. Yet knowing that He would be oppressed & afflicted. ^{vs 53:7} Jesus was not hiding in the Garden from Judas. vs 2. Jesus willingly and sacrificially went forth toward the sufferings and death of Calvary.

II. Jesus is Sacrificial in His Declaration - vs 3-4. Judas along with a band of six hundred Roman soldiers along with temple officers and a vile lay hold of Jesus. We find Christ not cowering in a corner, but meeting his accusers head on.

A. The Authority in His Capture - vs 5-6. Although Judas had in excess of 600 people to capture & arrest Christ there is no dispute concerning who was in charge of this arrest. When I read these verses always reminded of time while dating Carey... knees weakened... fell to floor. When Jesus presents him self with the phrase I am He, this great show

Every sinner must see the sacrificial life of Jesus and put their trust in Him as well should every saint see the same sacrifice and glory in it.

On author writes - The words "He went forth" convey the idea of purpose. Jesus was going forth deliberately and with a purpose. Jesus said to Pilate, "To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world" (John 18:37).

Matthew 26:39 And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.

Mark 14:36 And he said, Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt.

Luke 22:42 Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.

Isaiah 53:7 ...yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

...became obedient unto death even the death of the cross.

Ivor Powell - Once again, the inner glory of his divine nature had broken through the frail barrier of flesh to demonstrate the invincibility of his power.

John 10:18 No man taketh (my life) from me, but I lay it down of myself...

...one word from his mouth the armies of the world a laid waste. The blood of which will flow to the horses bridle!

...became obedient unto death even the death of the cross.

man power is leveled. They are thrown to the ground by the very words declared from Jesus mouth. Don Panell writes: This display of majestic power is the expression of what Jesus said in Jn 10:18. This scene

in the garden is a foreshadow of the day of the Lord when all the Forces of hell and Anti-Christ meet in the valley of Megiddo to come against the King of Kings... and w/ 144,000

B. The Abdication of His Capture - Abdication is the act of a King stepping down from his throne. vs 7-8 Jesus King of Kings... willingly submits to arrest. You know a sacrifice is not a sacrifice if it is wrestled from a persons hands. No! A sacrifice is freely given. With Christs presentation of himself the

second time he is clearly relaying that he is being taken by force but willingly and freely submitting to their arrest. Abdicating his power which he could have easily destroyed them with. Abdicating his freedom, which no man had power to bind. Abdicating his authority over which no man could have dominion. With these words Christ

III Jesus is Sacrificial in His Deliverance
vs 8. Sacrificial deliverance is to put ones self in harm or danger to rescue one that cannot save themselves. David faced lion Bear for sheep. 911 Firefighter

A. His was a Substitutional Sacrifice
"Let these go their way" We see here the very act of Substitutional Sacrifice. His Obedience for his disciples caused him to

stand in the Gap for them, to give up his own freedom for the sake of His friends
John 15:13. Spurgeon said, "We have" the
very soul and spirit of atonement in these words.
Here we see the Good Shepherd lay his life
down for his sheep. The laws of Holy Justice
demand the freedom of those for whom an accept-
able sacrifice is given! I remember when these
words became reality for me! The gospel truth to
embrace unto eternal life: He died for me! His life for
B. His was the Supreme Sacrifice vs 9-12

What foolish disciples we are sometimes. Yet as John 3
1. Jesus who practiced what he preached in Matt 5:44
replaced the ear of Nabuchus, then took up the cup
of suffering and shame and began to receive
it. Notice vs 12. Took and bound him. This
was indeed the Son of God. The high and
holy Messiah, now bound in the Chains of
a criminal. Matthew Henry said about this binding
To set us free from the bondage of sin and
death, Christ willingly Sacrificially submitted
himself to the bondage of the Cross. The Sacrifice
of all Sacrifices. Heb 9:26 1 Peter 3:18
Oh love of God how rich + pure How measureless + strong

IV Closing - We live in a world today that
knows nothing of self sacrifice. Divorce Murder
immorality.